



PIPELINE

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 3

OCTOBER, 2004

FROM THE DEAN

On Sunday, October 24th your AGO chapter is bringing in one of the most exciting organists to ever visit Fargo-Moorhead! Michael Olson and I have spent countless hours on negotiating to bring German organ prodigy Felix Hell to First Lutheran in Fargo. The concert will begin at 3 p.m.

For me personally, it is a dream come true as I had heard so much about this talented artist. Last July I heard him play at Buffalo, NY for the Organ Historical Society convention and I was swept away by his brilliant playing. The audience was enthralled to say the least.

I specifically asked him to play the Reger BACH as he had done in Buffalo and he consented to do so. Don't be surprised if the Fargo Tornado sirens go off during this number! It will only be Felix Hell. Come early to the church as we are expecting an unusually large turnout. This is one not to be missed!

CONCORDIA TO RESEARCH CHURCH MUSIC MAJOR

As far back as ten years ago, then music dept. head Dr. David Childs recommended that Concordia offer a church music major. More recently, Dr. Robert Chabora has picked up on the idea and is now researching what it would take to develop a curriculum to offer this degree. Chabora mentioned at the AGO program at Elim that he gets far more inquiries for church musicians than they can provide. What once was considered a daunting task to set up this program now seems within reach according to Chabora. The school already offers many courses needed to fulfill this degree.

AMERICAN THEATRE ORGAN SOCIETY TO PRESENT SILENT MOVIE NIGHT

The Fargo ATOS will present it's thirtieth annual Silent Movie Night on Friday, October 22 and Saturday, October 23rd, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the historic Fargo Theatre on Broadway in Fargo, ND.

Featured silent comedian Harold Lloyd will star in "Why Worry" a story of a millionaire playboy who stumbles into a revolution-ridden country. Live and original Mighty WurliTzer scores will be presented by Lance Johnson (Friday) and Dave Knudtson (Saturday).

The Fargo Theatre Big Band All-Stars will present a tribute to D-Day (6/6/44) and 6 veterans from that conflict will be especially honored. Tickets on sale at all FM Hornbachers as well as the Theatre Ticket office at \$10 in advance or \$11 at the door.

NEW VOCAL CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Chapter member Dr. Mark Ring has founded a new professional vocal chamber ensemble, Voices of Concord. The group will be composed entirely of professional singers from our region, with most performances sung one voice per part, exploring the rich field of vocal chamber music.

The group's inaugural concert will be Sunday, November 7, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in Concordia College's Christiansen Recital Hall. Music will include the Zigeunerlieder "Gypsy Songs" by Brahms, plus a selection of Quartets and Duets from favorite operas. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the door. For more information call 284-2434. Future performances include Haydn's Seven Last Words with vocal and string quartets on February 6, 2005



Upcoming Events

Felix Hell in Recital

October 24, 2004
 Sunday at 3 p.m.
 First Lutheran Church
 Fargo, ND

Program on MIDI

November 7, 2004
 Sunday at 4 p.m.
 St. John Lutheran Church
 Fargo, ND

Christmas Hymn Sing

December 5, 2004
 Sunday at 7 p.m.
 Gethsemane Cathedral
 Fargo, ND

Pedals, Pipes and Pizza

January 9, 2005
 Sunday at 4 p.m.
 Dilworth Lutheran Church
 Dilworth, MN

Hymn Festival

February 20, 2005
 Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
 Good Shepherd Lutheran
 Moorhead, MN
 (rehearsals 2/13, 2/20 @ 2 p.m.)

Meet with Grand Forks Chapter

April 10, 2005
 2:30 p.m.
 Organ crawl at Cathedral, First Presb.
 Trinity and Our Saviour's.
 Dinner to follow. More details
 In later issues.

Potluck Supper and Chapter Meeting

May 15, 2005 at 5 p.m.
 Lance and Judy's, 201 NE 3rd St.
 Dilworth, MN

REPORT OF BOARD MEETING

Sunday, September 10, 2004

Attending this meeting were Lance Johnson, Michael Olson, Robin Vinje, Marty Baumgartner, Peter Nygaard and Alpha Roeszler. Minutes from the August 19 meeting were approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$10,564.96.

The program for Sept. 19th to be held at Elim will be led by a panel consisting of Peter Nygaard, Michael Olson, Dr. Robert Chabora and Gerald Parker on the topic of Compensation for Church musicians. A lunch will be provided by Robin Vinje.

The Oct. 24th Felix Hell recital budget was presented, ticket prices were set and publicity was planned. Michael Olson volunteered to serve on the Lake Region Arts and Carolyn Hensrud will be asked to submit articles to TAO on programs held by our chapter. The Sept. Pipeline will run another membership enrollment form and a calling committee will be formed to remind those who have not renewed.

A professional concerns committee was appointed with Gaylord Fagerlund and Peter Nygaard. A motion was made to by a 1/4 ad for the Region VI convention. Marty Baumgartner volunteered to design the ad. Marty will also send out statements for ads in the Pipeline. A summary of a monthly planning calendar was submitted and reviewed. The next board meeting will be held January 7, 2005. Submitted by Alpha Roeszler.

SINCE 1954

Johnson Organ Co., Inc. **Pipe Organ Architects & Builders**

LANCE E. JOHNSON, PRES.
 606 N P. AVE.
 FARGO, ND 58102

FACTORY: (701) 237-0477
 RES: (218) 287-2671
 FAX: (701) 237-5823

A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED TO TAKE OVER THE DUTIES OF NEWSLETTER EDITOR. PLEASE CONTACT ANY BOARD MEMBER OR THE PRESENT EDITOR.

CLAMBEY PRESENTS OWN COMPOSITIONS

By Lance E. Johnson

AGO member Sue Clambey presented a concert of her own compositions and hymn settings at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Moorhead on Sunday evening, October 2, 2004.

Clambey, who specializes in lush melodies, uses traditional styled harmonies and melodies in her music. Her composing began in 1981 while she was organist at the Grace Methodist Church in Moorhead. Several of her numbers were specially commissioned. She was assisted by Judy Sanders, piano; Kirsten Carlson, flute; Dan Thureen, guitar; Dr. Catherine Tesch, Clarinet; Heather Frank, violin; and Em Laskey on flute.

Clambey has produced an incredible body of work while playing church organ and teaching piano. The entire program consisted of eighteen selections with most of them being sung by the composer. She preceded each piece with a short story about how they were conceived. Here are a few highlights;

With four of her numbers being for organ, my personal favorite was the choral prelude on "The Lord is My Shepherd" which made effective use of counterpoint, contrary motion and sequentials. Area organists may like to have this number for their own service playing.

Her rousing "Praise to the Lord" (Lobe Den Herren) would make a good postlude on a festival Sunday.

Another fine hymn setting was "Beautiful Savior" which demonstrated a good contrapuntal counter melody but the solo was registered too soft to get a good balance.

A highlight of the evening would have to be her "Tranquility, Serenity" which featured her singing short phrases interspersed with flute obligato. This work being one of her earliest (1989) shows Sue at her best as she employs good melodic structure, constant changes of meter but in a more modern vein. Hearing this as a choral work as it was written would prove to be very interesting!

A free will offering was taken to go to Habitat for Humanity.

As a parting comment, with all the musical talent that exists in our area churches, it would be well to see more organists and choir directors get into composing.

THOUGHTFUL DEVOTIONAL

Submitted by Michael Olson

Onward Christian Soldier; The Battle Hymn of the Republic; A Mighty Fortress... They just don't write hymns like that anymore. Whether in a traditional style, like *Here I Am Lord*, or *Borning Cry*; or in a contemporary style, like *Enough* or *Shout to the Lord*, music for today's audience speaks the language of today's audience. Suffice it to say that today we don't talk about the "Lord, strong and mighty in Battle."

Please don't misunderstand me: I'm not saying today's music is wrong, or bad. I am saying that today's music tends to ignore the almighty and terrifying power of God, and the lifelong and brutal struggles of faith.

Similarly, music from long ago often ignored what music of today focuses on: the joy and emotional response that comes from knowing that the King of Glory fights for us, not against us. The Lutheran church has been writing and signing hymns for over 15 generations. As we sing to God in the Language of our own time, let us sing also in the language of the past, that the King we worship might be glorified in All His ways.

PRO MUSICA'S THIRD SEASON 2004-2005

A series bringing together local, national and international performers to benefit
North Dakota's Aeolian Skinner organ at First Presbyterian Church,
Grand Forks, North Dakota

All concerts Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, 5555 South Washington Street
Grand Forks, North Dakota
701-775-5545

October 21, 2004 UND Music faculty

December 2, 2004 Donilyn Bergman, Violinist

January 27, 2005 Grand Cities Children's Choirs

March 3, 2005 Howard and Frances Karp, Pianists

May 5, 2005 Andrew Unsworth, organist

Tickets available at the door, \$15 adult/\$5 Student/\$30 Family special
Season ticket \$75 Adult/\$25 Student

HYMN FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

October 29, 2004

7:30 p.m.

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Mark Sedio, organist at Central Lutheran in Minneapolis will be presenting a hymn festival at St. Andrew's on Friday evening, October 29th. All organists are invited to join in this activity. It is a "mere" 3.5 hour drive with a great Mexican restaurant in Walker on the way! Lots of good places to stay in Grand Rapids.

PANEL PROVES POPULAR WITH RRV AGO

The Red River Valley AGO program for Sunday, September 19th, 2004 at Elim Lutheran Church was on Professional concerns, a topic not visited for several years at this chapter.

Dean Lance Johnson acting as moderator opened the session by telling three examples where organists had been mistreated which could have been mitigated by three points: Having a job description, a contract and an annual performance review.

Organist #1. She came to church to play and after turning on the blower, setting stops and preparing to play was confronted by the pastor who told her that her services were not needed that day as they would be using guitars. After this had happened again, the organist, after thirty years of service, resigned.

Organist #2. Asked if his salary could be reviewed and was told this was not possible as the church paid salaries on a percentage basis and that if his was increased someone else's would have to be decreased.

Organist #3. Came to play one Sunday and found an envelope on the music rack from the pastor. A terse note stated that she had used the "wrong" registration on the hymns that previous Sunday and that in the future she must use the pastor's registrations!

A four member panel then spoke on the subject, "Should AGO members have contracts with their churches."

Panel member Peter Nygaard favored contracts which will spell out the expectations of the organist. There should be a clause for vacation pay. He personally got paid while he was out for injuries for a month. His performance review is handled by the senior pastor. The clergy does not specify what he should play but leaves it up to the organist. A church that has perhaps only 50 worshipers on a given Sunday will not be able to pay well.

Dr. Gerald Parker: Music majors who are hired to play in a church setting are frequently not paid well. These highly trained professionals need to become more "hard headed" regarding compensation. He agreed that a formal agreement is best for all. He recommended that AGO members explore the AGO website to look at salary guidelines and then present these to employers. Church musicians work very hard to gain their expertise, often beginning training while still children. He also stated that IRS law has narrow definitions relating to "independent contractors" vs "employees" and that there are important distinctions regarding the payment of taxes for Social Security and Medicare deductions depending upon the status of one's employment.

Dr. Robert Chabora: (Chair, Concordia Music Dept.) He came from the eastern US where he served mostly as a choir director and sometimes as an organist. He didn't have contracts and had no authority in his work. Upon leaving one church his successor was given contract which made Dr. Chabora feel strange. With a contract the new organist now had more prestige. Some organists without a contract will get socked for extra work.

Michael Olson: although he does not have a contract he has a written job description which he was asked to write. He receives a raise each year. This is reviewed by the church council and approved. He is also allowed to share his concerns with other committees and clergy and that there dialogue has been very good.

Following the opening remarks the floor was open to questions and comments. Some of these were:

Should churches pay benefits like retirement, FICA, medicare, AGO dues and costs of workshops?

Who should pay substitutes and how much should they be paid.

Each musician should be treated as an individual.

Some musicians play in church to help they unwind from stressful jobs.

Many aspiring organ students lack keyboard and sight reading skills.

Many organists consider themselves musicians first and workers for the mission of the church second.

AGO members need to review the Code of Ethics of the AGO.

Some organists are afraid to discuss salary concerns.

One organist found himself passed over when a funeral director asked someone else to play for a service. This offended the organist!

Sally Harmon showed the group some new information from the National AGO website which gave recommended salaries for organists. More study will be done by the Professional Concerns committee to get more information. Although many questions and comments did not deal directly with the subject of compensation or contracts the discussion was very lively with the wrap-up not taking place until 6:30 p.m. Many felt that there needs to be more program information and discussion on this important topic.

Submitted by Lance E. Johnson, Dean

PRO MUSICA'S THIRD SEASON 2004-2005

A series bringing together local, national and international performers to benefit
North Dakota's Aeolian Skinner organ at First Presbyterian Church,
Grand Forks, North Dakota

All concerts Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, 5555 South Washington Street
Grand Forks, North Dakota
701-775-5545

October 21, 2004 UND Music faculty

December 2, 2004 Donilyn Bergman, Violinist

January 27, 2005 Grand Cities Children's Choirs

March 3, 2005 Howard and Frances Karp, Pianists

May 5, 2005 Andrew Unsworth, organist

Tickets available at the door, \$15 adult/\$5 Student/\$30 Family special
Season ticket \$75 Adult/\$25 Student

ADVERTISING BILLING INFORMATION

After several years of inactivity regarding advertising rates in the Pipeline the RRV AGO would like to ask the support of advertisers by posting the following rates for ads in the Pipeline.

1/2 page \$100
1/4 page \$50
Business card \$15

Thank you for your support!

HYMN FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

October 29, 2004

7:30 p.m.

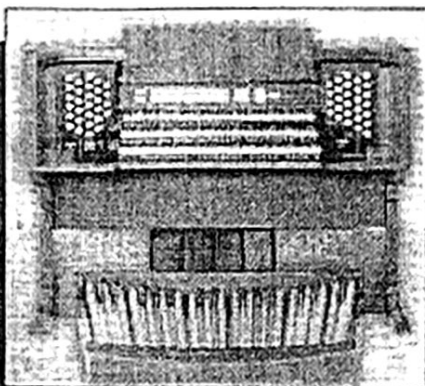
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

Mark Sedio, organist at Central Lutheran in Minneapolis will be presenting a hymn festival at St. Andrew's on Friday evening, October 29th. All organists are invited to join in this activity. It is a "mere" 3.5 hour drive with a great Mexican restaurant in Walker on the way! Lots of good places to stay in Grand Rapids.

CONSIDERING A NEW ORGAN?

Johannus Organs

Combining old world craftsmanship with today's technology. The world's only real-time sampled digital organ for authentic pipe organ quality. Pipe organ compatible.



Schmitt Design Series Organs

Offers the smaller church or home spectacular pipe-like performance with a wealth of quality features at an affordable price. Manufactured by Johannus to our own design specifications and requirements.

We work for months and even years with church architects, musicians, financial committees and donors, to assure the enrichment of your music activities and absolute, continuing satisfaction with your installation. We offer the security of fully warranted instruments and qualified technicians, backed by 103 years of experience.

LET SCHMITT'S HELP!

Since 1896



For information, a demonstration, or a free survey of your church organ needs and requirements, call Craig Proehl, Schmitt Music, Village West Shopping Center, Fargo ND 58103. (701) 281-1828 or (800) 252-6270



HANSON - RUNSVOLD
FUNERAL HOME

215 S. 7th St., Fargo, ND 58103
West Side of Island Park

Is Proud to Support
The American Guild of Organists

(701) 232-3222 (800) 598-3223

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT 2002 LAKE AGASSIZ ARTS COUNCIL MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

2143 performances in theatre, dance, music and broadcasts serving 799,500 people
219,194 tickets valued at \$3,828,985 sold, many events free
Arts organizations purchased \$6,430,420 in goods and services
People employed in the arts total \$8,086,546 in payroll
There are currently 44 member organizations of which AGO is one!

OUR CHAPTER OFFICERS:
DEAN: LANCE JOHNSON
SUBDEAN: GAYLORD FAGERLAND
SECRETARY: ALPHA ROESZLER
TREASURER: MARTY BAUMGARTNER

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE:

BRAD STEEN
DAWN PAPERFUSS
ROBYN VINJE
MICHAEL OLSON
JUDY SANDERS
PETER NYGAARD

Please send all PIPELINE news to:
Gerald Gysler Parker
Box 520
Casselton, North Dakota 58012
E-mail gparker@linkup.net
Phone: 347-5018(home) or 347-5345(work)

Publication Title: PIPELINE
Issue Date: October, 2004
Statement of frequency: monthly except June & July
Authorized organization's name and address:
Red River Valley Chapter
American Guild of Organists
P.O. Box 2223
Fargo, ND 58108-2223
Issue Number: Volume 21, Number 3

Serving When the Need is Greatest



409 8th St. S. • Moorhead
(218)-233-1533

KORSMO
funeral service

George Korsmo
Thomas Pence
Greg Craychee
Sherman Syverson

RODGERS

DIGITAL AND PIPE ORGANS

Peggy Bartunek
500 Hill Ave. Grafton, ND 58237
1-800-962-6989

Digital Interfaces to Existing Pipe Organs

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
Red River Valley Chapter
PO. BOX 2223
Fargo, ND 58108-2223

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1657
Fargo, North Dakota

Return Service Requested

